



Animal Care Update



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Animal Care Responsibilities

- Horse Protection Act
 - Gaited horses (Tennessee Walking Horses, Fox Trotters, Spotted Saddle Horse)
 - Prevent “soring”: an abusive practice used to create an exaggerated gait
- Animal Welfare Act





Animal Care Personnel

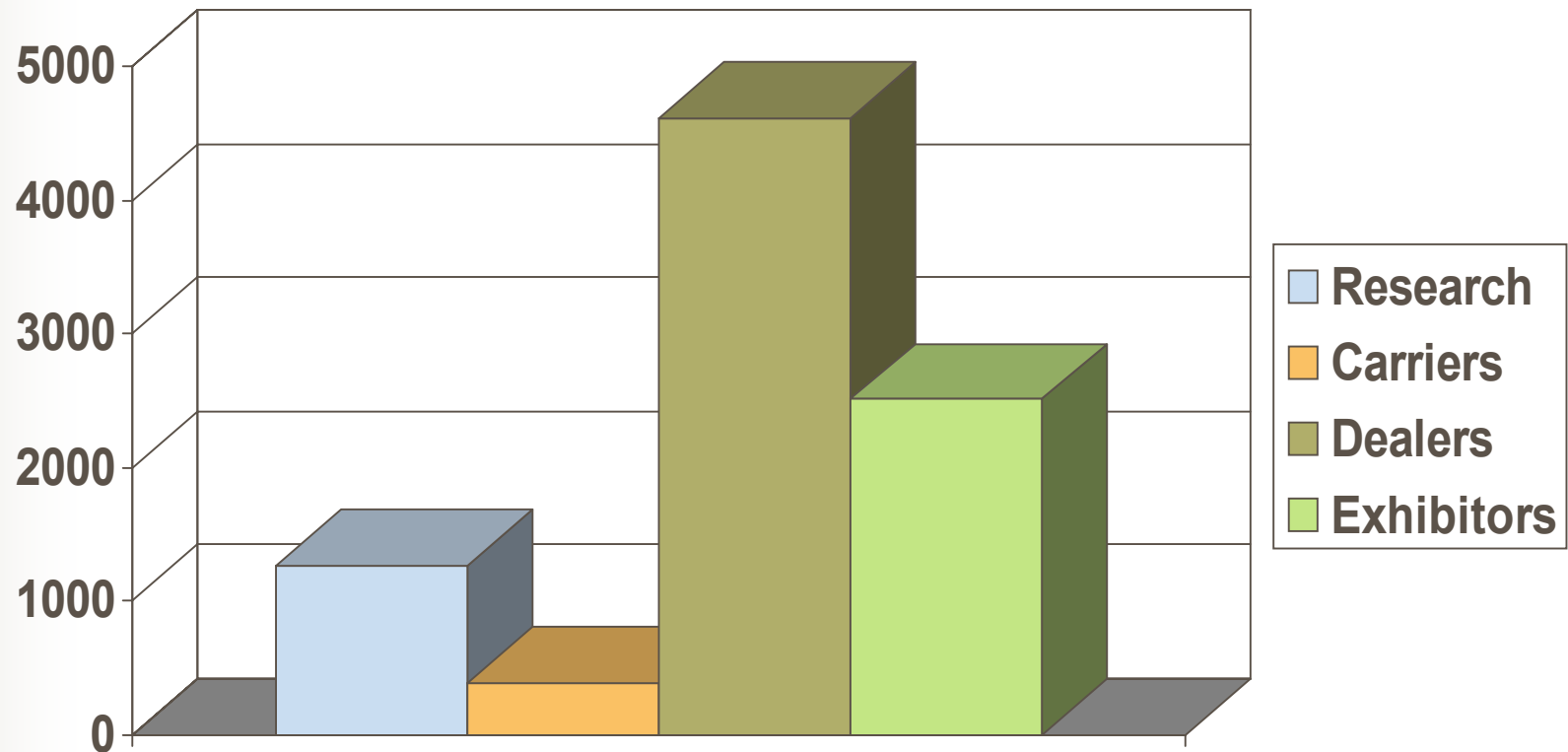
- **2 regional offices**
- **46 Animal Care Inspectors**
- **50 Veterinary Medical Officers**
- **8 Supervisory Animal Care Specialists**
- **4 Staff Veterinarians**
- **6 Management Team Veterinarians**



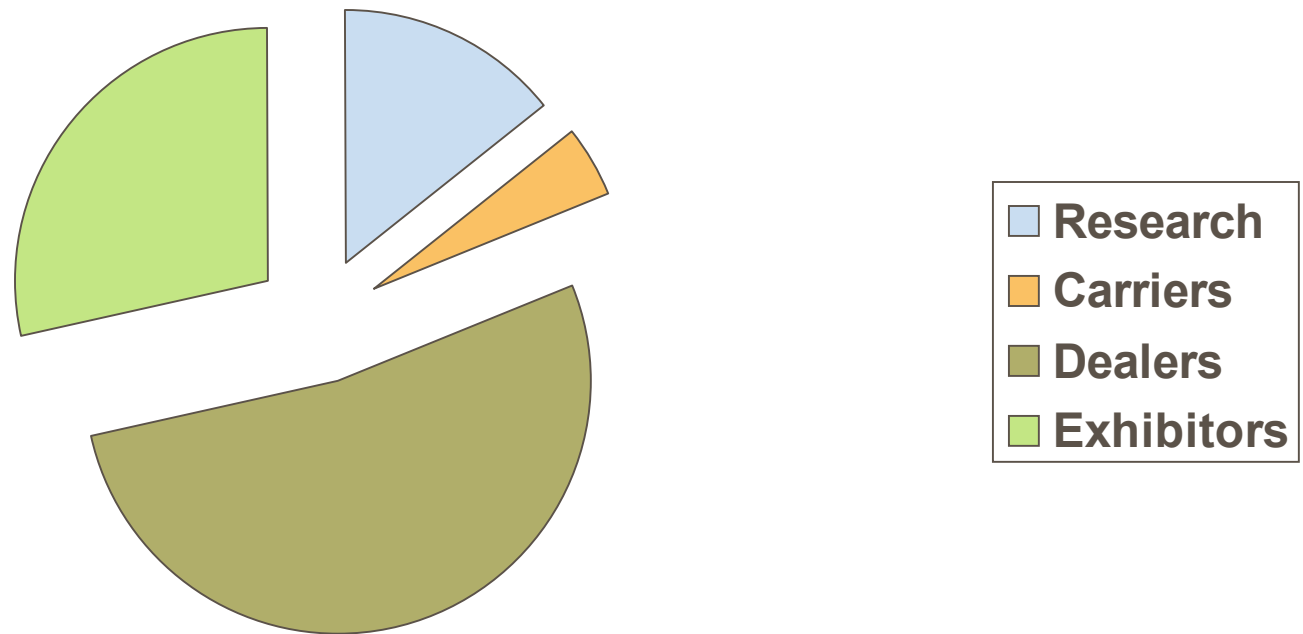
“The Regulated”

■	Research Facilities	1265
■	Contract labs, universities, biologics producers	
■	Carriers and Intermediate Handlers	388
■	Animal Dealers	4612
■	Animal Exhibitors	2508
■	Zoos, circuses, marine mammal parks	
	TOTAL	8773

Number of Facilities FY2000



Percent by Type of Facility



Animal Welfare Act



Passed by Congress in 1966

“use of animals is instrumental in ...research... for advancing knowledge of cures and treatment”

“measures which help meet the public concern for laboratory animal care and treatment are important in assuring that research will continue to progress”



Hot

Animal Care Issues

- Rats, Mice and Birds
- Computer Advancements
- Pain and Distress
- Consideration of Alternatives





Rats, Mice, and Birds

- **Definition of “animal”**
- **FR Notice January 1999 – received 34,000 comments**
- **Could add an estimated 20 million rats and mice (80-95% of all research animals), 500 million birds (mostly dealers)**



Rats, Mice and Birds

- **Alternatives Research & Development Foundation (ARDF) lawsuit**
- **Settlement in September 2000. USDA agreed to initiate proposed rulemaking**
- **Language introduced into FY01 Appropriations Bill**



Rats, Mice and Birds

- However Congress, in FY 2001 appropriations language, stated: *“None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to issue a notice of proposed rulemaking, to promulgate a proposed rule, or to otherwise change or modify the definition of ‘animal’ in existing regulations pursuant to the Animal Welfare Act.”*



Rats, Mice and Birds

- **Senator Helms bill**
- **Passed Senate**
- **Passed House?**





AC Computer Advancements

- LARIS Database
- Inspection reports to be downloaded directly from the field
- E-FOIA capability
- Electronic Annual Reports

Pain and Distress

- “Request for Comments” published in FR July 10, 2000
- Comment period extended to November 7, 2000
- Received over 2800 comments



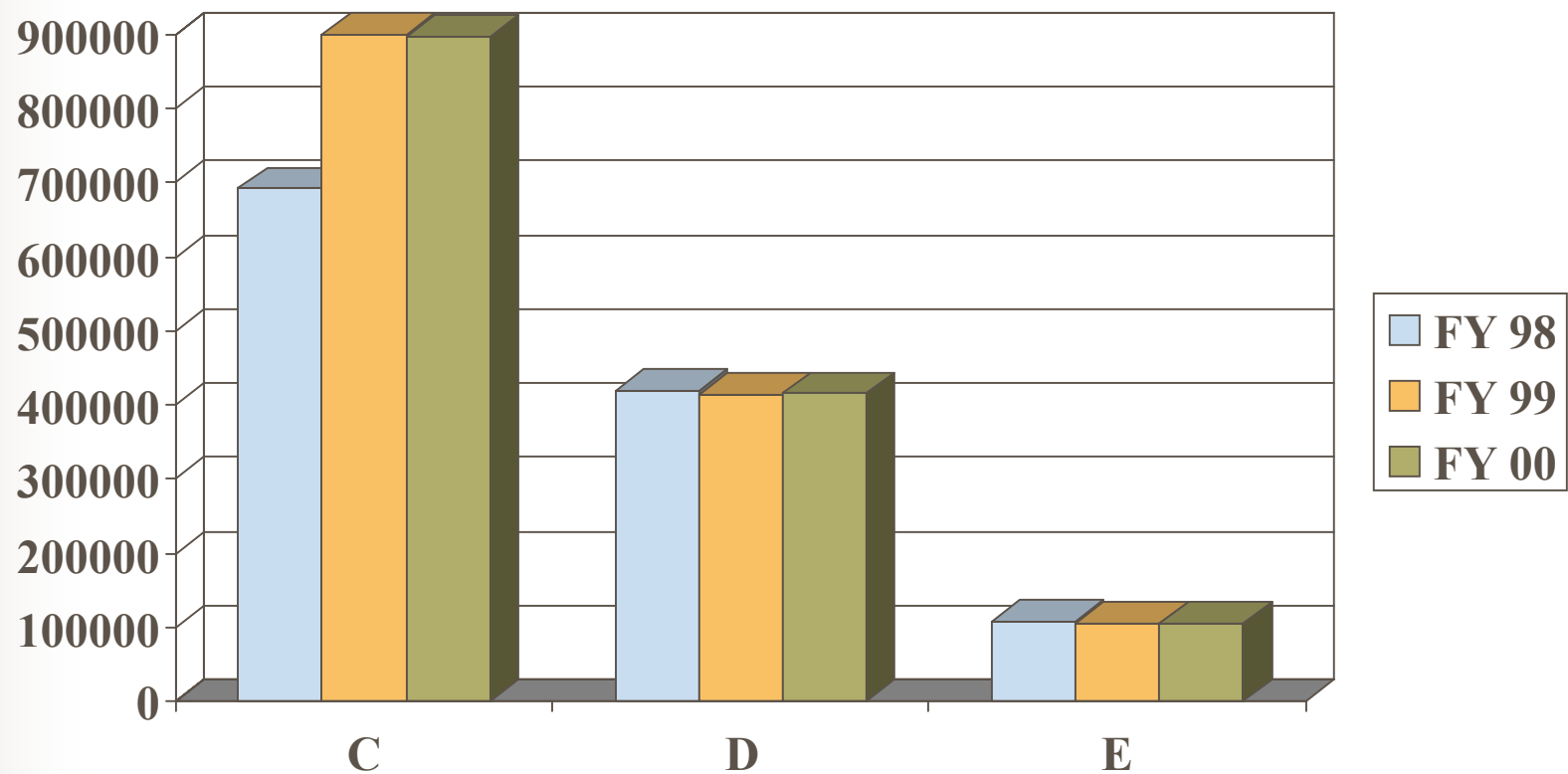


Pain and Distress

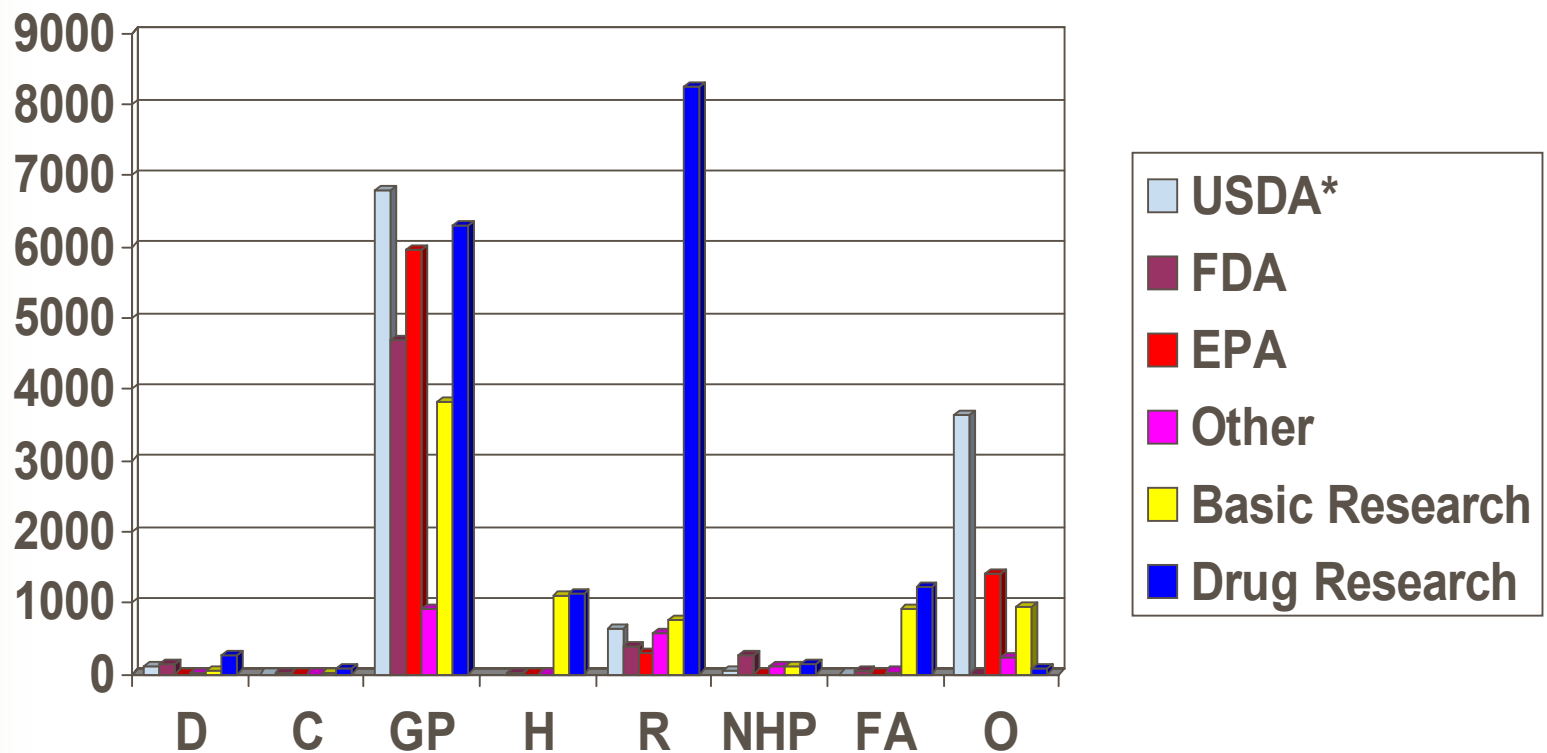
Current Classification System:

- Utilizes Columns C, D and E

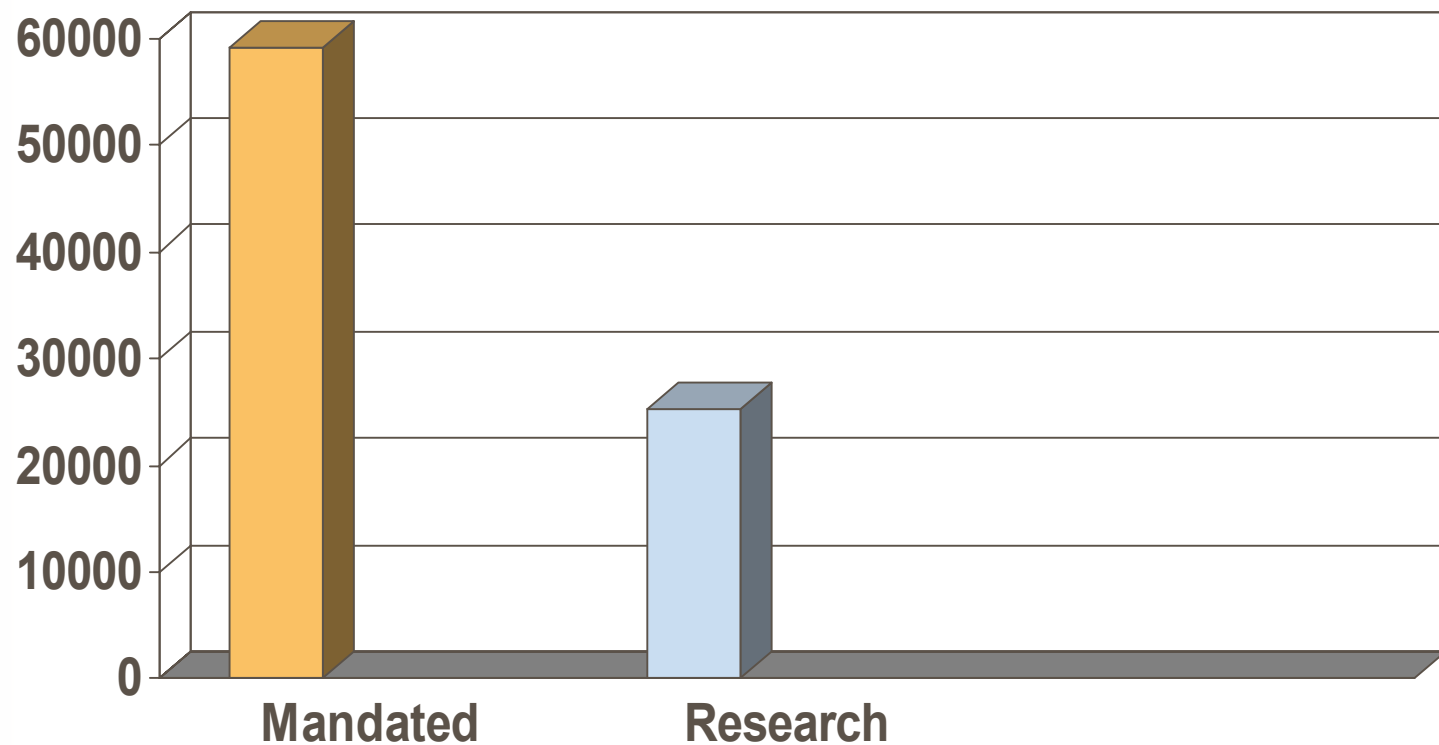
Animals by Category/FYs 98-00



Pain/Distress in FY00 by Use



Use of Animals in Category E





Consideration of Alternatives

9 CFR Section 2.31(d)(1)(ii) places responsibility on the IACUC to assure the principal investigator has considered alternatives to procedures that may cause more than momentary or slight pain or distress to the animals, and has provided a written narrative description of the methods and sources...used to determine that alternatives were not available



Consideration of Alternatives

- **Policy 12 revision was released June 21, 2000**
- **Database search remains the expected standard to identify alternatives to P/D procedures**
- **Other sources may be considered; e.g., subject experts, colloquia**



Consideration of Alternatives

- Replacement (non-animal or less sentient species)
- Reduction (minimum # needed for valid results)
- Refinement to reduce pain and distress
 - Anesthetics, analgesics, tranquilizers
 - Other drugs or methods
 - Behavioral training, environment enrichment
 - **Clearly specified endpoints**



Consideration of Alternatives for Mandated Tests

- Cite the regulation or agency guideline requiring the test
- Give the reason for not using a validated, agency-accepted alternative
- Ensure use of appropriate and valid endpoint



Animal Care Update

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